IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Fischer et al.

Serial No.: 10/019,087

Confirmation No. 3082

Group Art Unit: 1644

Filed: December 19, 2001 Examiner: Phuong N. Huynh For: METHOD FOR DETECTING A LIPOPROTEIN-ACUTE PHASE PROTEIN

COMPLEX AND PREDICTING AN INCREASED RISK OF SYSTEM FAILURE OR

MORTALITY

August 9, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Applicants provide the present Amendment in response to the Office Action dated July 17, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment and allowance of the present application.

It is not believed that any fee(s), including fees for additional claims, are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. In the event, however, that additional fees are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such an extension is also hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Applicants authorize that any additional fees believed to be due in connection with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this document.